

OFFICE OF THE Arizona State Treasurer

KIMBERLY YEE





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Treasurer Yee Advances Personal Finance Bill for Students

PHOENIX, AZ – Arizona Treasurer Kimberly Yee continues her longstanding advocacy of student financial literacy by advancing <u>S.B. 1184</u>. The bill, sponsored by Education Chairwoman Senator Sylvia Allen, clarifies the current high school graduation requirement for economics includes personal financial management as a component.

"I want to thank Senator Sylvia Allen for sponsoring this important Treasury initiative. Arizona high school students need to be equipped with the necessary tools to make smart financial decisions as adults. Financial literacy and money management are basic life skills that are critical for students to succeed after graduation," Treasurer Yee said.

The Arizona State Board of Education requires a semester of economics instruction for high school graduation, however, the Board's rules do not explicitly state that economics include financial education. S.B. 1184 establishes in the state's statutes that a financial literacy component be a part of the required economics instruction.

"I have visited classrooms around the state and have discovered students are not being taught basic money management skills. In my first days on the job as State Treasurer, it was important that I unveil a bill in this legislative session to ensure students are taught the essentials of personal finance, like balancing their checkbooks and understanding credit, before entering the real world. S.B. 1184 equips our future generations with the foundations they need to manage their money," Yee said.

Over the past eight years as a member of the Arizona Legislature, Treasurer Yee introduced and passed several financial literacy bills for students including a bill that requires financial literacy be included in every grade level of the state's K-12 academic standards and a bill that establishes a state seal on Arizona's high school diplomas to recognize students who have attained proficiency in personal finance in high school. <u>S.B. 1184</u> is the first of many financial literacy initiatives that are expected to come from Treasurer Yee's administration.

About the Arizona Office of the State Treasurer: The State Treasurer is responsible for the banking and investment management duties for the state, provides investment services to local governments, and manages the Land Endowment (PLETF) which primarily benefits K-12 public schools. The Treasury has more than \$15 Billion in assets under management and stewards the cash management of Arizona's \$40 Billion state budget. Kimberly Yee is the 36th Treasurer of Arizona.